



# What's On

at the Museum of Natural History

May - August 2018



Genetics, geography and the peopling of Britain

9 February – 16 September 2018

[www.oum.ox.ac.uk/settlers](http://www.oum.ox.ac.uk/settlers)

From the arrival of the earliest modern humans to the people of the present day, the Settlers exhibition tells the dynamic story of Britain's ever-changing population as revealed by genetics, archaeology and demography.

### Exhibition Family Trail

Find out where we came from, what objects can tell you about the past, and why people move.  
For ages 7+.  
Until 16 September.

### Stones and Bones

Discover the changing climates, peoples and animals of British pre-history in our volunteer-led object handling sessions.  
**Saturdays, 11am-1pm,**  
until 16 September.



*Where Do We Come From? What Are We? Where Are We Going?*  
Commissioned for the exhibition from contemporary artist Ian Kirkpatrick, this artwork explores the social and natural causes behind human migration, both in ancient times and in the present day. On display until 16 September 2018.

# WHAT'S ON

**Tue 1 May, 6.30-7pm ●**

## Swifts in the Tower

Talks about the study of the colony of swifts in the Museum tower - the longest running study of any bird worldwide. Part of Oxford Swift City in collaboration with RSPB.

**Book at [www.bit.ly/mnhevents](http://www.bit.ly/mnhevents)**

**Thu 3 May, 6.30-8pm ●**

## Our Genomic Future

Preview an innovative theatre project that explores the role of genomics and big data in medicine and healthcare.

**Book at [www.bit.ly/mnhevents](http://www.bit.ly/mnhevents)**

**Wed 9 May, 6.30-7.30pm ●**

## The Messy Story of Human Origins

Beyond our African origins, little is yet known about the emergence of our species. Dr Eleanor Scerri discusses the latest data showing the unexpected twists in our story.

**Book at [www.bit.ly/mnhevents](http://www.bit.ly/mnhevents)**

**Thu 10 May, 11am-12pm ●**

## Sensing Culture

A hands-on tour of the Settlers exhibition for blind and partially-sighted visitors.

**To book email:**  
**[outreach@museums.ox.ac.uk](mailto:outreach@museums.ox.ac.uk)**

**Thu 10 May, 7-10pm ●**

## Settle in... for a Games Night

A night of exploration and settlement board games under the dinosaurs, with expert help from the Thirsty Meeples games café. Ages 18+. **£7.**

**Book at [www.bit.ly/mnhtickets](http://www.bit.ly/mnhtickets)**

**Mon 14 May, 10.30am & 11.30am ●**

## A Little Look at... Bugs

See creepy crawlies and spectacular spiders around the Museum. Under 5s.

**Fri 18 May, 7-10pm ●**

## Late Night: Illuminating Movement

Torchlit trips and global adventures through movement, music, talks and science across the Museum and Pitt Rivers Museum.

**Book at [www.bit.ly/mnhevents](http://www.bit.ly/mnhevents)**

**Tue 22 May, 10.30am-12.30pm, Drop-in ●**

## Curious Cubs

Pick up an activity bag and explore the Museum with some of our furry friends. Under 5s.

**Tue 22 May, 6.30-7.30pm ●**

## The Genetic Legacy of Kings and Commoners in the Iberian Peninsula

Our DNA holds clues to the demographic history of our ancestors. Dr Clare Bycroft presents recent work looking at the genetic history of the Iberian Peninsula.

**Book at [www.bit.ly/mnhevents](http://www.bit.ly/mnhevents)**

**Tue 29 & Wed 30 May, 1-4pm, Drop-in ●**

## Operation Earth: Living Earth

Be inspired by the natural world and find out how scientists are learning about what's on our planet.

**Thu 31 May, 11am-2pm ●**

## The Last Snowflake

A participative theatre and film-making session led by Voices for Nature looking at climate change and affected animals. Ages 9-13, with activities for younger children.

**Book at [www.bit.ly/mnhevents](http://www.bit.ly/mnhevents)**

**Fri 1 Jun, 8-10pm ●**

## Stand-Up Philosophy

A night of stand-up and experts looking at the funnier side of philosophy and natural history. Part of the Festival of Nature.

**£7 / £5 student concession.**

**Book at: [www.bit.ly/mnhstandup](http://www.bit.ly/mnhstandup)**

All events are free unless stated otherwise, but donations help support our programme. For the full Family Friendly programme across the Oxford University Gardens, Libraries and Museums see **[www.museums.ox.ac.uk](http://www.museums.ox.ac.uk)**.

**Sat 2 Jun, 10am-4pm, Drop-in ●**

## Wild Fair

Meet researchers, wildlife and conservation groups and some of the creatures they study at the big launch of Oxfordshire's Festival of Nature. Co-hosted with BBOWT.

**Thu 7 Jun, 6.30-7.30pm ●**

## The Peopling of the British Isles: What we can learn from genetics

Professor Peter Donnelly explains how large-scale genetic studies offer a powerful new approach to understanding subtle similarities and differences in populations and their history.

**Book at [www.bit.ly/mnhevents](http://www.bit.ly/mnhevents)**

**Mon 11 Jun, 10.30am & 11.30am ●**

## A Little Look at... Birds

Meet some of our feathery friends and glide with us around the Museum. Under 5s.

**Wed 13 Jun, 6.30-7.30pm ●**

## Archaeology and the Peopling of the British Isles

Professor Mark Robinson discusses the archaeological and environmental background of the Settlers exhibition, from the earliest known traces of human populations to the Norman Conquest.

**Book at [www.bit.ly/mnhevents](http://www.bit.ly/mnhevents)**

**Tue 19 Jun, 10.30am-12.30pm, Drop-in ●**

## Curious Cubs

Pick up an activity bag and explore the Museum with some of our furry friends. Under 5s.

**Sat 23 Jun, 2.30-3pm ●**

## Settlers Spotlight

Find out about the latest research in an afternoon talk based on themes explored in the Settlers exhibition.

**Thu 28 Jun, 7.30-9pm ●**

## The Great Debate

### Getting Your Genome Sequenced - Will You Open Pandora's Box?

To commemorate the 1860 Great Debate on evolution, our panel of experts will tackle the implications of the personal genomics revolution.

**Book at [www.bit.ly/mnhevents](http://www.bit.ly/mnhevents)**

**Tue 3 Jul, 6.30-7.30pm ●**

## Genetics, Geography and Human History

Professor Stephen Leslie discusses the People of the British Isles study, a groundbreaking analysis of fine-scale genetic differences in the population.

**Book at [www.bit.ly/mnhevents](http://www.bit.ly/mnhevents)**

**Sat 7 Jul, 12-3pm, Drop-in ●**

## Alice's Day: Hop into Wonderland

Meet animals from the Mad Hatter's tea party and create your own curious Wonderland mobile.

**Mon 16 Jul, 10.30am & 11.30am ●**

## A Little Look at... Dinosaurs

Stomp and roar around the Museum with us as we spot some of our dinosaur friends. Under 5s.

**Sat 21 Jul, 10am-5pm ●**

## Geology of Oxfordshire

A day school of talks, practical sessions and a behind-the-scenes tour on the geology of Oxfordshire. **£50.**

**Book at [www.bit.ly/mnhtickets](http://www.bit.ly/mnhtickets)**

**Tue 31 Jul, 2-4pm, Drop-in ●**

## Bags of Fun

Borrow a backpack full of activities and become a family of museum explorers.

**Mon 6 Aug, 1-4pm, Drop-in (Talk: 2.30pm) ●**

## Operation Earth: Brilliant Bees

An exciting bee bonanza featuring *Horrible Science* illustrator Tony De Saulles who will be talking about his book *Bee Boy*.

**Talk at 2.30pm, for ages 6+.**

**Book for talk at [www.bit.ly/mnhevents](http://www.bit.ly/mnhevents)**

**Tue 14 Aug, 2-4pm, Drop-in ●**

## Bags of Fun

Borrow a backpack full of activities and become a family of museum explorers.

**Mon 20 Aug, 1-4pm, Drop-in ●**

## Operation Earth: Investigating Oceans

Explore a whole new world under the sea with crafts and specimen handling.

**Tue 28 Aug, 2-4pm, Drop-in ●**

## Bags of Fun

Borrow a backpack full of activities and become a family of museum explorers.

**NEW: Dodo's Book Club ●**

**21 May, 25 June, 30 July, 28 August 7-8pm**

Enjoy a good natural history book? Join our new monthly book club for good discussion over a drink. The first book is George Monbiot's *Feral*; you choose the next!

**Book at [www.bit.ly/mnhevents](http://www.bit.ly/mnhevents)**

● Adults and young people

● Families

● Suitable for all



## LIVE SCIENCE SHOWS

Prepare to be amazed by our spectacular family science show all about planet Earth. **Ages 6+.**

26, 29, 30 May, 2pm & 3pm

30 June, 2pm & 3pm

28 July, 2pm & 3pm

2, 9, 16, 23 August, 2pm & 3pm

## MEET THE EXPERTS

Drop in for a chat with science experts about a host of subjects and get hands-on with science.

12 May, 2-4pm

9 June, 2-4pm

14 July, 2-4pm

4, 18 August, 2-4pm

## HANDS-ON

Have a go with our Operation Earth kit to discover more about nature.

3, 10, 17, 24, 31 August, 2-4pm

## DISPLAYS

### Presenting...

#### Argonauts: Astronauts of the Sea

2 May - 3 July

Argonauts, or paper nautilus, are known for their beautiful shells, but how are they formed? Find out and see specimens from the collections.

#### Moving Tales

4 July - 5 September

We are moving thousands of fossils and rocks from an old deconsecrated church to a new specially-adapted store. The specimens and their packaging show the idiosyncrasies and tastes of 200 years of amateur and professional collecting.

### Community Case

#### Illustrating Life

Until 1 July

New works by our community of artists, all inspired by the Museum's Life Collections.

#### Natural History Investigators

2 July - 28 October

See objects that inspired young people to explore their interest in the natural world.

### Wytham Room

#### Bats: The Mystery Beings

2 June - 8 January 2019

Wytham Woods' studies of UK bat populations offer a unique insight into our often misunderstood 'night dwellers'.

## REGULAR EVENTS

#### Spotlight Specimens ●

Monday-Thursday, 2.30pm (except during Family Friendly activities)

An informal specimen show-and-tell in the Museum court. Ask questions and chat with Museum experts.

#### Architecture Tours ●

Every Friday, 2.30pm & 3.15pm (except during school holidays)

Take a free volunteer-led tour to learn about the Museum's Grade 1-listed building.

#### Science Saturdays ●

Every Saturday, 5 May - 16 June (except 2 June), 2-4pm, Ages 8+

Meet scientists to investigate real natural history specimens from the collection.

#### Summer Trail: Planet Earth Rocks! ●

During opening hours

Rocks that rock! Discover more about what planet Earth is made out of in this new trail.

#### Café Scientifique ●

Second Tuesday every month (excluding August), 7-9pm

Meet prominent researchers from a variety of sciences to discuss their work.

#### Family Friendly Sundays ●

Every Sunday, 2-4pm

Family Friendly trails, crafts, backpacks and more, all provided by Museum volunteers.